

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 INT-08

DOT-00 TRSE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 H-03 RSR-01 /088 W

----- 085191

R 141625Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1518

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1897

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJECT: ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENTS

1. DR. PIERCE CAMU, PRESIDENT OF THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY AUTHORITY AND MARINE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MOT, HAS RESIGNED EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1 TO BECOME THE FIRST FULL-TIME PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS. A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE AUTHORITY HAS ADVISED THAT CAMU'S DECISION WAS BASED ON PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS, ESPECIALLY A DESIRE FOR A LESS PRESSING JOB. NO INDICATION OF A REPLACEMENT HAS YET SURFACED BUT THIS OFFICIAL SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT CAMU WOULD BE REPLACED BY TWO PERSONS, ONE FOR EACH ROLE HE HAS BEEN PLAYING.

2. EMBASSY'S CONTACT WITH THE AUTHORITY WAS INSPIRED BY PRESS REPORTS THAT CAMU HAS INDICATED GOC WOULD SHORTLY BE REQUESTING TOLL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US. THIS OFFICIAL, AFTER CONSULTING WITH CAMU, ADVISED THAT HE HAD MADE NO SUCH STATEMENT AND THAT THE REPORT WAS A FIGMENT OF THE WRITER'S IMAGINATION.

3. SOURCE DID INDICATE THAT THE AUTHORITY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE ENGAGED IN A MAJOR STUDY
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AIMING AT THE ORGANIZATION OF THE FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

OF THE AUTHORITY IN RELATION TO REVENUE EXPECTATIONS
OVER THE NEXT 20 YEARS. TOLL INCREASES ARE NOT
CONSIDERED A MEANINGFUL POSSIBILITY ON THE SCALE WHICH
WOULD BE REQUIRED TO FULLY COVER ALL COSTS, OPERATING
AND CAPITAL. THUS RESTRUCTURING IS NECESSARY BUT
THERE IS RESISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

4. A REPORT TO THE CABINET IS HOPED FOR AROUND
OCTOBER 1. IF THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ACCEPTED, THE
DECISION WILL BE ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY. IT IS NOT CLEAR
AT MOMENT WHETHER NEW LEGISLATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO
EFFECT RESTRUCTURING. ADJUSTMENTS IN THE GOC BUDGET ESTIMATES
MAY SUFFICE.
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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